WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (**Currently Amended**). An ophthalmic device comprising a polymer and at least one silver releasing compound in a concentration sufficient to provide ionized silver in an initial concentration of between about 50 and about 3,000 ppm, wherein said ophthalmic device has a haze of less than about 200% and said silver releases from said ophthalmic device during use at rate with a rate constant, calculated using a first order kinetics equation, of ~~up to about 1 days^{-1}~~, between about 0.001 and about 0.5 days^{-1}.

2. (**Canceled**)

3. (**Original**) The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said rate constant is between about 0.01 and about 0.3 days^{-1}.

4. (**Original**) The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said rate constant is between about 0.001 and about 0.2 days^{-1}.

Claims 5-7 (**Canceled**).

8. (**Original**) The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said initial silver concentration and rate constant are sufficient to provide an at least about 50% reduction in microbial activity over said device's use.

9. (**Original**) The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said ophthalmic device is a contact lens.

10. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said initial silver concentration and rate constant are maintained below amounts which would cause argyria.

11. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9 wherein after about a day said silver releases from said ophthalmic device during use at a rate with a rate constant , calculated using a first order kinetics equation of up to about 1 day^{-1}.

12. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9 is substantially free from visible haze.

13. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9 having less than 150% haze.

14. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9 having less than 100% haze.

15. (**Original**) The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said polymer further comprises a ligand to which said silver is releasably bound.

16. (**Original**) The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said ophthalmic device is a contact lens and said initial silver concentration and rate constant are sufficient to provide an at least about 50% reduction in microbial activity over said device's use.

17. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said use is continuous wear for at least 14 days.

18. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said use is continuous wear for at least 30 days.

19. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said silver releases from said contact lens during use in an amount sufficient to provide at least a 70% reduction in bacterial activity over said use.

20. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said silver releases from said contact lens during use in an amount sufficient to provide at least a 90% reduction in bacterial activity over said use.

21. (**Original**) The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said silver releasing compound has a molar solubility of silver ion in pure water of about 25°C of about 2.0 x 10^{-30} moles/L to about 2 moles/L.

22. (**Original**) The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said silver releasing compound has a molar solubility of silver ion in pure water of greater than about 2.0 x 10^{-17} moles/L.

23. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said polymer comprises a silicone hydrogel.

24. (**Previously Presented**) The contact lens of claim 23 wherein said silicone hydrogel is selected from the group consisting of senofilcon A, galyfilcon A, lotrafilcon A and balafilcon A.

25. (**Original**) The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said polymer is formed from a reaction mixture comprising at least one silicone-containing component.

26. (**Previously Presented**) The ophthalmic device of claim 25 wherein said reaction mixture further comprises at least one hydrophilic component.

27. (**Original**) The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said ophthalmic device is coated.

28. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said polymer is formed from a reaction mixture comprising at least one silicone-containing component.

29. (**Previously Presented**) The contact lens of claim 28 wherein said reaction mixture further comprises at least one hydrophilic component.

30. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said ophthalmic device is coated.

31. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about 2 log after two days.

32. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about 1 log after two days.

33. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about 2 log after 10 days.

34. (**Original**) The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about 1 log after 10 days.

35. **(Previously Presented).** The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about .05 log after 30 days.